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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION

1937 AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM - - - - SOUTHERN REGION

BETTER-BALANCED FARMING FOR THE OKLAHOMA AND TEXAS WHEAT AND GRAIN-SORGHUM AREA

(Including Special Provisions for Wind Erosion Area)

A BETTER-BALANCED system of farming, more profitable to farmers and safer for consumers, is the aim of the 1937 AAA conservation program.

Protecting the land and protecting the income of those who depend upon the land inevitably go together. Overcropping produces price-depressing surpluses, lowers fertility, and exposes the land to ero-

sion by wind and water. Through this process the soil resources of present and future generations are destroyed.

Without Nation-wide cooperation toward better-balanced farming, many farmers may be compelled by the force of competition to sell off their productive resources, disregarding their own and the Nation's long-time interest because of the need for immediate



Contour listed land after rain.

cash return. The eventual results of this practice would be higher costs of production, higher prices to consumers, and a lower standard of living for the farmer.

Destruction of soil by wind and water erosion, and loss of fertility through overcropping have made millions of acres of the Nation's agricultural land unsuitable for farming. Wastage of soil resources in grain-producing areas was hastened during the pioneering period and by the abnormal wartime demand for grain. Soil waste has been so extensive that conservation of soil resources has become a national problem. The need now is to preserve the productivity of the land upon which the Nation must depend for the bulk of its food and fiber. These are the reasons why the Nation is justified in supporting the AAA conservation program, and through that program making payments that enable farmers to conserve soil on their farms. The Federal Government allots funds for this purpose.

During the past 3 years farmers generally have made progress toward a better-balanced system of farming. The adjustment pro-

grams of the AAA resulted in a shift of land from crops that deplete the soil to crops and practices that conserve the soil. The present program places additional emphasis on the care of the soil.

Material reductions in the huge surpluses which accumulated before and during 1932 have been made in the past 4 years. The income of farmers has increased with the rise of prices of farm commodities. The carry-over of cotton, however, was 7,000,000 bales on August 1, 1936, and this is 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 bales in excess of the normal carry-over. Unless consumption increases above present levels, 1 or 2 years of heavy cotton production probably would build up surpluses and again beat down prices. The acreage seeded to winter wheat for harvest in 1937 is approximately 57,000,000 acres, the largest in history. With average conditions and an average production of spring wheat, the crop could easily be much greater than required for domestic consumption. In all probability this condition would result in considerably lower wheat prices.

The AAA conservation program seeks a better balance between crops and practices which conserve the soil, and crops and practices which deplete the soil. It seeks more widespread use of farming practices which restore and maintain productivity of the land, and which retard wind and water erosion. It encourages and enables the individual farmer to follow good farming practices which are in the interest of the national welfare.

The methods provided under the program for attaining these objectives in the wheat and grain-sorghum area of Texas and Oklahoma are based on the experiences of farmers in this area, the recommendations developed for 1937 in community and farmer meetings throughout this area of Texas and Oklahoma, and on the findings of the experiment stations and the Soil Conservation Service in the area.

For the wind erosion or high-plains part of this area special provisions are made for combating wind erosion, by providing an additional allowance that may be used for emergency practices on farms where a wind-erosion hazard exists.

The wheat and grain-sorghum area in these two States comprises the following counties:

TEXAS

| | | | |
|---------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Andrews | Crosby | Haskell | Moore |
| Archer | Dallam | Hemphill | Motley |
| Armstrong | Dawson | Hockley | Nolan |
| Bailey | Deaf Smith | Hood | Ochiltree |
| Baylor | Dickens | Howard | Oldham |
| Borden | Donley | Hutchinson | Palo Pinto |
| Briscoe | Eastland | Jack | Parker |
| Brown | Ector | Jones | Parmer |
| Callahan | Erath | Kent | Potter |
| Carson | Fisher | King | Randall |
| Castro | Floyd | Knox | Reeves |
| Childress | Foard | Lamb | Roberts |
| Clay | Gaines | Lipscomb | Runnels |
| Cochran | Garza | Loving | Scurry |
| Coke | Glasscock | Lubbock | Shackleford |
| Coleman | Gray | Lynn | Sherman |
| Collingsworth | Hale | Martin | Somervell |
| Comanche | Hall | Midland | Stephens |
| Concho | Hansford | Mills | Sterling |
| Cottle | Hardeman | Mitchell | Stonewall |
| Crane | Hartley | Montague | Swisher |

Taylor
Terry
Throckmorton

Tom Green
Ward
Wheeler

Wichita
Wilbarger
Winkler

Wise
Yoakum
Young

OKLAHOMA

Alfalfa
Beaver
Beckham
Blaine
Caddo
Canadian
Cimarron
Comanche

Cotton
Custer
Dewey
Ellis
Garfield
Grady
Grant
Greer

Harmon
Harper
Jackson
Jefferson
Kay
Kingfisher
Kiowa
Major

Noble
Roger Mills
Stephens
Texas
Tillman
Washita
Woods
Woodward

The wind-erosion area is composed of the following counties in the wheat and grain-sorghum area :

TEXAS

Andrews
Armstrong
Bailey
Borden
Briscoe
Carson
Castro
Cochran
Crosby
Dallam
Dawson
Deaf Smith

Donley
Ector
Floyd
Gaines
Garza
Glasscock
Gray
Hale
Hansford
Hartley
Hemphill
Hockley

Howard
Hutchinson
Kent
Lamb
Lipscomb
Loving
Lubbock
Lynn
Martin
Midland
Moore
Motley

Ochiltree
Oldham
Parmer
Potter
Randall
Roberts
Sherman
Swisher
Terry
Wheeler
Winkler
Yoakum

OKLAHOMA

Beaver
Cimarron

Ellis
Harper

Texas

Woodward

CONSERVATION PAYMENTS

Farmers are encouraged and assisted in building up a balanced production between soil-conserving and soil-depleting crops by the conservation payments, which are referred to as class I and class II payments. Carrying out this program through the system of payments described in this leaflet is contingent upon Congress making available the amount authorized for 1937, which is \$500,000,000.

Class I conservation payments make it practicable for farmers to produce the amounts of cotton, wheat, and other soil-depleting crops which are in line with demand, and which can be sold at prices fair to both producers and consumers. These payments will be made to farmers who conserve the soil on their farms by diverting a part of the acreage normally devoted to soil-depleting crops.

Class II conservation payments make it practicable for farmers to carry out soil-conserving and soil-building practices which retard soil erosion by wind or water, and which restore and maintain soil fertility. These payments will be made to farmers who carry out one or more approved soil-building practices on cropland or pasture.

CLASS I CONSERVATION PAYMENTS

Class I payments for diverting acreages from soil-depleting crops will be made as follows:

General soil-depleting crops.—Payments will be made for diversion of soil-depleting crops, other than cotton and peanuts grown

commercially, if such other crops are grown in excess of farm needs, at an average rate for the United States of \$9 per acre. This rate will vary from farm to farm, depending on the productivity of the land. An individual farmer may divert for payment up to 15 percent of his general soil-depleting base, provided that none of the acreage diverted is needed to grow food or feed for home use. No payment will be made for diverting acreage which is needed to grow food or feed for home use. This is the same plan as that in effect for 1936, except that the rate of payment in 1937 is slightly lower.

Cotton.—The payment will be 5 cents per pound on the normal production of the acreage diverted, up to 35 percent of the base cotton acreage for the farm. However, on farms with a base of 2 acres or less the entire base may be diverted for payment. On farms with a base of 2 to 5.7 acres, as much as 2 acres may be diverted for payment. This is essentially the same plan as that in effect for 1936.

Commercial peanuts.—The payment will be $11\frac{1}{4}$ cents per pound on the normal production of the acreage diverted, up to 15 percent of the commercial peanut base for the farm.

CLASS II CONSERVATION PAYMENTS

Class II payments will be made for carrying out approved soil-building practices, but are limited on any farm to the soil-building allowance for that farm. The soil-building allowance is built up in either of two ways, depending upon the type of farm.

Soil-building allowances.—A. For farms on which a cotton, peanut, or general soil-depleting base in excess of home needs can be established, the soil-building allowance will be determined by adding the following:

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1. For each base acre diverted from soil-depleting crops that qualifies for class I payment..... | \$1.00 |
| 2. For each base acre of soil-conserving crops..... | 1.00 |
| 3. For each acre of cropland on each farm in the wind-erosion area, with respect to which cropland the county committee determines that wheat has blown out in 1936 or 1937, that wheat or other crops have failed in 1936 or 1937, or that such land is abandoned because conditions have not been favorable to obtaining a natural or seeded vegetative cover, and that the vegetative cover and trash have disappeared to the extent that such land is susceptible to damage by wind erosion in 1937, provided such acreage does not include any acreage diverted for payment in 1937 and shall not exceed the total acreage of cropland on the farm less the sum of the acreage diverted for payment in 1937 and the soil-conserving base for such farm..... | .75 |

In addition, there is provided an allowance for each acre of commercial orchard or commercial vegetables, and for each acre of fenced noncrop open pasture land in excess of one-half of the cropland which will carry one or more animal units to each 5 acres. (An animal unit is one horse, one cow, five sheep, or five goats.)

The soil-building allowance for these farms in no case shall be less than \$10.

B. For farms on which no cotton, peanut, or general soil-depleting base in excess of home needs can be established, and on which, therefore, no diversion for payment can be made, provision has been made for establishing a soil-building allowance which will be not less than \$20.

Soil-building practice payments.—The class II payments will be made for carrying out any one or more of the approved soil-building practices listed below. Payments will be made at the rates and upon the conditions stated, but the total soil-building payments will not exceed the soil-building allowance for the farm. These payments will be in addition to any which may be earned by diversion. Numbers of soil-building practices in the following list are those used in the official regulations promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture, and the practices shown below are those which are applicable to the wheat and grain-sorghum area of Oklahoma and Texas:

| | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------|
| Practice No. 1. —Alfalfa planted on cropland in 1937----- | rate per acre-- | \$2. 50 |
| Practice No. 2. —Sweetclover, annual lespedeza, Austrian winter peas, or other locally adapted winter legumes, planted on cropland in 1937 | rate per acre-- | 1. 50 |
| Practice No. 3. —Cowpeas, soybeans, mung beans, or other locally adapted summer legumes, excluding lespedeza, grown on cropland in 1937 and the total forage plowed under, provided that a reasonably good growth is attained----- | rate per acre-- | 2. 00 |
| Practice No. 4. —Austrian winter peas, or other locally adapted winter legumes, plowed under in 1937, or lespedeza left on the land in 1937 except that the seed may be harvested, provided a reasonably good growth is attained----- | rate per acre-- | 1. 00 |
| Practice No. 9. —Forest trees, including post-producing species, planted on cropland in 1937----- | rate per acre-- | 5. 00 |
| Practice No. 10. —Ground limestone or its equivalent applied on soil-conserving crops or pastures in 1937; but payment will not be made on more than 4,000 pounds, or less than 1,000 pounds per acre if applied broadcast, or on less than 500 pounds if applied in rows | rate per 100 pounds-- | . 07 |
| Practice No. 11. —Sixteen percent superphosphate or its equivalent, applied in 1937 on soil-conserving crops or pastures (excluding soybeans, cowpeas, velvet beans, and peanuts); payment will not be made on more than 400 pounds per acre or less than 100 pounds per acre | per 100 pounds-- | . 50 |
| Practice No. 14. —Terracing land in 1937 in accordance with good terracing practices for the land----- | per 100 feet-- | . 40 |
| Practice No. 21. —Contour listing or furrowing when done on cropland in 1937: <i>Provided</i> , (1) That the furrows shall be made with a regular double mold-board lister or with a chisel of approved design, according to the specifications given herein; (2) that the furrows shall be not more than 4 feet nor less than 2 feet apart and shall, if listed, be not less than 8 inches in width and 4 inches in depth, or if chiseled, not less than 4 inches in width and 6 inches in depth, or have a cross section of at least 24 square inches for such chiseled furrows; (3) that the furrowing shall be done with the contour of the land, following lines run with a surveyor's instrument or farm level; and (4) that the contour furrows shall be maintained until the land is prepared for a crop. On slopes greater than 3½ feet to each 100 feet, such contour listing must be combined with terracing----- | per acre-- | . 25 |
| Practice No. 22. —Alternate strips of sorghums or Sudan grass, and fallow, if such strips of sorghums or Sudan grass are planted on the contour in 1937 prior to August 15 on cropland contour, listed or furrowed since October 31, 1936: <i>Provided</i> , (1) That such strips of sorghums or Sudan grass are not less than approximately 2 rods in width and are not more than 12 rods nor less than 4 rods apart; (2) the strips of sorghums or Sudan grass are not wider than the fallow strips between such strips of sorghums or Sudan grass; and (3) the stalks are left standing on the land as a protection against wind erosion. In counties outside the wind-erosion area, if heads or seed are harvested from such strips of sorghums or Sudan grass, only the acreage of the fallow strips shall be considered in computing the acreage of this practice----- | per acre-- | . 35 |

- Practice No. 23.**—Alternate rows of sorghums or Sudan grass, and fallow, if such rows of sorghums or Sudan grass are planted on the contour in 1937 prior to August 15 on cropland contour, listed or furrowed since October 31, 1936: *Provided*, (1) That such rows of sorghums or Sudan grass are planted as single or double rows not less than 10 feet apart, nor more than 12 feet apart if in single rows, or 18 feet apart if in double rows; and (2) if the stalks are left standing on the land as a protection against wind erosion. (Each row shall be considered to occupy a strip $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in width, the distance between the rows being computed from center to center of the rows.) In counties outside the wind-erosion area, if heads or seed are harvested from such rows of sorghums or Sudan grass, only the acreage of the fallow strips shall be considered in computing the acreage of this practice-----per acre-- .25
- Practice No. 24.**—Sorghums, millets, or Sudan grass, seeded solid or broadcast, or sweet sorghum or Sudan grass in rows not over 4 feet apart, grown in 1937: *Provided*, That (1) all crop is left on the land (or either left on the land or plowed under in counties outside the wind-erosion area); and (2) a reasonably good growth is attained. Payment will not be made for this practice in addition to a payment for alternate strips or rows of sorghums or Sudan grasses and fallow, as provided in the two preceding practices-----per acre-- 1.00
- Practice No. 25.**—Green-manure crops, including rye, barley, oats, wheat, Italian rye grass, or mixtures of two or more of these, plowed under as green manure, after making a reasonably good growth (not less than 2 months' growth) in the spring of 1937: *Provided*, That such crop shall not reach the dough stage. This practice shall not be applicable to the wind-erosion area-----per acre-- .75
- Practice No. 26.**—Natural restoration of native pasture: (a) On cropland contour listed or contour furrowed in 1936, not grazed in 1936, and maintained by withholding all grazing in 1937 and allowing the natural coverage to remain as a protection against erosion, or (b) on cropland contour listed or contour furrowed before May 1, 1937, in accordance with the contour listing or furrowing practice, and maintained by withholding all grazing therefrom in 1937 and allowing the natural coverage to remain as a protection against erosion-----per acre-- .25
- Practice No. 27.**—Reestablishment of native grasses by seeding or sodding in 1937, or the establishment in 1937 of permanent pasture of perennial grasses or grass and legume mixtures on cropland, or noncrop open pasture land, which, if in the wind-erosion area, has been contour listed in accordance with the contour listing or furrowing practice--per acre-- 2.50
- Practice No. 28.**—Contour farming, consisting of the growing of crops on the contour in combination with terraces, contour listing, or furrowing, furrows not to be less than 14 inches apart. No additional payment will be made if payment already has been made for strips or rows of sorghums or Sudan grass alternating with fallow on the contour on the same area-----per acre-- .25
- Practice No. 29.**—Contour listing or furrowing pasture land, furrow channels to be not less than 8 inches in width and 4 inches in depth and not less than $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet apart. Payment will be made on the acreage occupied by the furrows, computed on the basis of $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in width for each such furrow-----per acre-- .70
- Practice No. 30.**—Ridging pasture land on slopes of 2 percent or greater, such narrow terraces or ridges to be at least 6 feet wide from bottom of furrow to bottom of furrow on the opposite side, at least 10 inches in height, and not to exceed one-third of the regular terrace interval per 100 linear feet-- .10
- Practice No. 31.**—Sorghums or Sudan grass, seeded in 1937 in combination with or following listing or terracing, either solid in drills, or in rows not over 4 feet apart, on cropland in the wind-erosion area of the type described as qualified for the additional emergency soil-building allowance of 75 cents per acre, provided only the heads of the sorghum or seed of the Sudan grass are removed and all the stalks are left on the land, and provided the producer's farming plan provides for such stalks to be left on the land until May 1, 1938, as a protection against wind erosion. (Payment will not be made under practice 28 in combination with this practice)-----rate per acre-- .50

- Practice No. 32.**—Sorghums or Sudan grass, seeded in 1937, not in combination with listing or terracing, either solid in drills, or in rows not over 4 feet apart, on cropland in the wind-erosion area of the type described as qualified for the additional emergency soil-building allowance of 75 cents per acre, provided only the heads of the sorghum or seed of the Sudan grass are removed and all the stalks are left on the land, and provided the producer's farming plan provides for such stalks to be left on the land until May 1, 1938, as a protection against wind erosion-----rate per acre-- .35
- Practice No. 33.**—Basin listing, when done on cropland in 1937 with approved basin lister which dams the lister furrows at regular intervals, provided the furrows are not more than 4 feet apart and not less than 4 inches in depth-----rate per acre-- .20

NOTE.—Where basin listing is done on the contour and the furrows are not more than 4 feet nor less than 2 feet apart and not less than 8 inches in width and 4 inches in depth, such acreage shall be certified under practice 21.

The term "strips of sorghums or Sudan grass", wherever used in this leaflet, means strips that are seeded solid, broadcast, or in rows not over 4 feet apart. The term "double rows" means two rows, not less than 3 nor over 4 feet apart.

Where strips of sorghums or Sudan grass, alternating with fallow, are over 12 rods in width or occupy more than one-half of the land, the actual acreage of such strips, if all the crop is left on the land, will be paid for as though in a field where such crops were not in strips. If such strips (or rows of sorghums or Sudan grass or fallow) are not on the contour, occupy one-half or less of the land, and are 12 rods or less in width, no practice payment will be made.

DEDUCTIONS

Deduction for administrative expenses.—The field expenses of the agricultural conservation associations in connection with the 1937 program will be deducted on a pro-rata basis from the payments due farmers.

Deduction for increasing acreage of soil-depleting crops.—If the acreage of cotton or commercial peanuts exceeds the base established on any farm, or if the acreage in general soil-depleting crops is in excess of the home-consumption needs for the farm and exceeds the general base, a deduction from payments will be made at the same rate as that established for making class I payments for the same farm.

Deduction for failure to have minimum acreage of soil-conserving crops.—The acreage of soil-conserving crops must equal the total acreage diverted for payment from the various bases, plus the soil-conserving base for the farm, or a deduction will be made. The amount of the deduction will be \$3 for each acre by which the soil-conserving acreage in 1937 fails to meet this requirement.

Deductions relative to wind-erosion prevention practices.—No deductions will be made in the wind-erosion area for an increase in the acreage of soil-depleting crops or for failure to have the minimum acreage of soil-conserving crops from the payment for carrying out one or more of the erosion-preventing soil-building practices numbered 21, 22, 23, 31, 32, and 33, if an additional emergency soil-building allowance of 75 cents per acre is established on land of the type described as qualified therefor, but deductions will be made from such payments on a pro-rata basis for administrative expenses of the program.

Other deductions.—Payments to any person may be withheld if practices have been followed which tend to defeat the purposes of the 1937 AAA conservation program. The county committee shall not certify for payment an application from any person who has been found by the appropriate county committee to have been so negligent and careless in his farming practices in 1937 that his farm has become a wind-erosion hazard to the immediate community in which it is located.

VARIATION IN PAYMENTS

The rates of payment and the allowances discussed in this leaflet are computed upon the basis of an available amount of \$500,000,000 for the 1937 program and participation by 85 percent of farmers in all regions. Such rates of payment, deductions, and allowances may be increased or decreased, depending upon the extent of participation by not more than 10 percent.

DIVISION OF PAYMENTS

Class I payments.—The class I payments, with respect to cotton and peanuts will be divided as follows:

- (a) 37½ percent to the producer who furnishes the land.
12½ percent to the producer who furnishes the workstock and equipment.
50 percent to be divided among the producers who are parties to the lease or operating agreement, in the proportion that such producers are entitled to share in 1937 in those soil-depleting crops, or the proceeds of such crops, in connection with which the class I payment is made.
- (b) General crops in designated counties.—In counties in western Texas and western Oklahoma designated by the Secretary of Agriculture, the class I payment made in connection with the general base on any farm will be divided among the interested producers in the same proportion as the crops in the general base, or the proceeds of the crops, are divided under the lease or operating agreement on the farm.

Class II payments.—The payment with respect to the acreage on which any approved soil-building practice is carried out on any farm will be made to the producer who bears the expense of carrying out such soil-building practice. If two or more producers have shared in the expense in carrying out any such practice on the farm, the class II payment for the particular acreage will be divided equally among them.

CROP AND LAND USE CLASSIFICATION

Cropland will be classified according to its use in order to have a basis upon which to compare 1937 farming operations with the soil-depleting and soil-conserving bases established for the farm.

In general, land will be classified as soil depleting when used for the production of cultivated row crops, such as cotton, corn, peanuts, or sorghums, or when devoted to small-grain crops, such as wheat, oats, or barley. In the wind-erosion area, when unprotected summer fallow land becomes a wind-erosion hazard, this land will be classified as soil depleting.

Cropland from which no soil-depleting crops are harvested, but on which legumes or perennial grasses are grown in 1937, will be classified as soil-conserving, and cropland on which specified soil-

building practices are carried out in 1937 will be classified either all or part soil conserving, as outlined in the following paragraphs.

Where the use of winter cover crops, including wheat, oats, barley, or rye, is approved as being good farming practice, the land on which such crops are pastured or plowed under as green manure, if followed by another soil-conserving practice, will be classified as soil conserving, except that in the wind-erosion area such land will be classified in accordance with the soil-conserving crop or practice which follows such winter cover crop. In order to take advantage of this provision it will be necessary for the producer to designate the area on the farm to be so used and receive prior approval of the county committee.

Cropland on which Sudan grass is seeded solid or broadcast, or in rows not over 4 feet apart and is not harvested for seed or hay; or on which any sorghum or millet is seeded solid or broadcast or sweet sorghum is planted in rows not over 4 feet apart in 1937, and all the sorghum, millet, or sweet sorghum is left on the land (or either left on the land or plowed under in counties outside the wind-erosion area), will be considered soil conserving, provided a reasonably good growth is attained.

When strips of sorghums or Sudan grass, alternating with fallow, are planted prior to August 15, 1937: If such strips are not less than approximately 2 rods wide and not more than 12 nor less than 4 rods apart; if they are not wider than the fallow strips between the strips of sorghums or Sudan grass; and if the stalks are left standing on the land as a protection against wind erosion, the acreage actually occupied by these strips will be considered soil depleting, and the acreage of the fallow strips between will be considered soil conserving. However, strips of sorghums or Sudan grass seeded solid or broadcast, or of sweet sorghums or Sudan grass in rows, from which heads or seed are not removed, will be classified as soil conserving.

On cropland on which strips of sorghums or Sudan grass, alternating with fallow, are over 12 rods in width or occupy more than one-half of the land, the actual acreage of the strips will be classified either as soil depleting or soil conserving, depending on the disposition of the crop, and the fallow strips will be classified as soil conserving in accordance with the type of fallow.

When rows of sorghums or Sudan grass, alternating with fallow, are planted prior to August 15, 1937; if the sorghums or Sudan grass are planted in single or double rows, not less than 10 nor more than 12 feet apart if in single rows, or more than 18 feet apart if in double rows; and if the stalks are left standing on the land as a protection against wind erosion, the acreage actually occupied by the rows will be considered soil depleting. The fallow strips between the rows will be considered soil conserving, except that rows of sweet sorghums or Sudan grass from which heads or seed are not removed shall be classified as soil conserving. Each row will be considered to occupy a strip $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in width, the distance between the rows being computed from center to center of the rows.

The acreage of cropland on which controlled summer fallow is practiced in 1937, by contour listing or furrowing (the furrows in no instance to be less than 14 inches apart), which is kept sufficiently

free of vegetative cover so that available moisture is conserved, will be classified as three-fourths soil conserving.

The acreage of cropland on which protected summer fallow is practiced in 1937, which is protected by listing or furrowing not on the contour, or by leaving stubble or trash near the surface of the soil, and which is kept sufficiently free of vegetative cover so that available moisture is conserved, will be classified as two-thirds soil conserving. In the wind-erosion area, if this practice is used, the land will be classified as only one-third soil conserving.

The acreage of idle cropland terraced in 1937 will be classed as soil conserving. In the wind-erosion area terracing must be combined with controlled or protected summer fallow or contour listing for such land to qualify as soil conserving.

Cropland planted to forest trees since January 1, 1934, will count as soil conserving.

The acreage on which legumes, or perennial grasses, including native grasses, are planted following soil-depleting crops, will be classified as soil depleting and soil conserving. The entire acreage of row crops interplanted with legumes will be counted as soil depleting, and one-third or one-half the acreage will also be counted as soil conserving, depending upon the part of the land occupied by the legumes.

Cropland on which soil-depleting crops are grown in 1937, if terraced in 1937, will be classified as soil depleting, and in addition one-third will be classified as soil conserving.

Cropland in the wind-erosion area on which soil-depleting crops are grown in 1937, if contour listed in 1937, will be classified as soil depleting, and in addition one-tenth shall be classified as soil conserving.

ESTABLISHING BASES

In order to measure the extent of soil-conservation practices on any farm, and to ascertain the amount of soil-conserving payments due any producer, soil-depleting bases and a soil-conserving base will be established for each farm.

Special soil-depleting bases will be established for cotton and commercial peanuts.

A general soil-depleting base will be established to include grain crops, truck crops, and other soil-depleting crops for which special bases are not established.

The soil-conserving base is that acreage of soil-conserving crops established as normal for the farm.

All bases are established by the county committee from information furnished by the producer and community committee. The county committee may make necessary adjustments in bases.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

In order to qualify for payments, farmers must take two necessary steps: (1) Fill out and file a work sheet, and (2) make application for payment.

The work sheet is a printed form on which the owner or operator of a farm describes it and lists the acreage and yields of crops. It

should be filled out with the assistance of a community or county committeeman or the county agent and filed with the county committee within the time specified. Filling out the work sheet does not obligate the farmer in any way. However, an application for payment cannot be made unless a work sheet for the farm has been properly filed.

Application for payment must be made on a prescribed form available through the county committee. This application should be filled out after the conservation performance that has been carried out has been properly checked. This application will show the extent to which the provisions of the program have been used in carrying out approved conservation practices.

Preliminary payment for wind-erosion prevention practices.— On a preliminary application, any producer who has land that is a wind-erosion hazard to the extent that it has qualified for the additional emergency soil-building allowance of 75 cents per acre may receive preliminary payment for carrying out one or more of the soil-building practices numbered 21, 22, 23, 31, 32, and 33 covered by such application which he has carried out before June 1, 1937, on land of the type described as qualified for the additional soil-building allowance of 75 cents per acre. Such payment will be 85 percent of the amount computed at the respective rate fixed in the statement of the soil-building practices. Only one preliminary application may be submitted respecting any particular farm. The amount of the payment will be deducted from the total amount computed as due the producer under the complete and final application made by him for payment under the provisions of the 1937 Agricultural Conservation Program.

ADMINISTRATION

The program will be administered in each county by the county agricultural conservation committee, the members of which are elected from the members of the county agricultural conservation association. All farm owners and operators who sign work sheets automatically become members of the county agricultural conservation association. Community committeemen, elected by farmers in communities designated within each county, will help administer the program. A State agricultural conservation committee will assist in administering the program in each State.

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